

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 2, 5, 14 and 16 are amended and claims 18 and 19 are canceled. Claims 18 and 19 have been incorporated into independent claims 1, 14, and 16.

Entry of the amendments is proper under 37 CFR §1.116 since the amendments: (a) do not raise any new issue requiring further search and/or consideration (as the amendments amplify issues previously discussed throughout prosecution); and (b) place the application in better form for appeal, should an appeal be necessary. The amendments are necessary and were not earlier presented because the reasons given in the Office Action why the previous arguments were not persuasive make clear that the structure of the pulley with relation to the stator was not well understood. Reconsideration of the arguments and entry of the amendments is thus respectfully requested.

Examiner Salata is thanked for the courtesies extended to Applicants' undersigned representative during the October 24 telephone interview. The substance of the interview is incorporated in the following Remarks.

Claims 1-3, 9, 13-17 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) over Tauchi (U.S. Patent No. 6,328,136). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As recognized by the Examiner by the fact that claim 18 was not included in this rejection, Tauchi fails to teach or suggest a pulley comprising a first portion overlying the stator and a second portion not overlying the stator, the second portion of the pulley further comprising grooves formed therein to receive cables. Tauchi teaches a pulley having a portion that both overlies the stator and has the grooves for receiving the cables. Withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

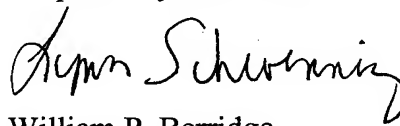
Claims 4-6, 7, 8, 10-12 and 18 stand rejected under three separate 35 U.S.C. §103 rejections over Tauchi in view of Honda and either Tosato et al. (U.S. Patent No 4,355,785) or Ivanto et al. (U.S. Patent No 4,771,197). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Both Honda and Tosato fail to teach or suggest a pulley having a first portion overlying the stator and a second portion not overlying the stator, where the first and second portions of the pulley are monolithic. Because the various combinations of Tauchi, Honda and Tosato each fail to teach or even suggest the claimed features of a pulley, as recited in independent claims 1, 14 and 16, the 35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejections should be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of this application are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment:

Petition for Extension of Time

Date: November 9, 2006

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